

Joey Goebel  
*I Against Osbourne*

Published by Diogenes as *Ich gegen Osborne*  
Original title: *I Against Osbourne*



Joey Goebel  
*Ich gegen  
Osborne*

*Roman · Diogenes*

It's a completely normal school day. But at Osbourne High School, shy James is stressed: wearing his recently deceased father's suit, he seems like the only responsible adult in an unrestrained, over-sexed society. He can't stand his fellow students, who want to be cool but are actually just callous and vulgar and constantly wear each other down. And now even the girl he likes, Chloe, a kindred spirit, seems to have discovered her feminine side while on holiday in Florida – and then some! Seeing no other option, James declares war: *I Against Osbourne*! Not just against the principal, whom he blackmails with knowledge about his sex-escapade with a female student, but against the entire high school. The ›outsider of all outsiders‹ resolves to stir up Osbourne High in a way that none of the hipsters ever has.

## Book factsheet

General Fiction  
432 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
March 2013

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### Translation rights currently sold:

French (Héloïse d'Ormesson)

### Awards

- 2009 ›Festival-Preis‹ des Internationalen Festivals und Kolloquiums ›Days and Nights of Literature‹ (Rumänien)
- 2007 Nominierung für den Kritikerpreis in der Altersgruppe 16–18 Jahre der Jury der jungen Leser für *Freaks*
- 2007 ›Silberner Lufti, Lufti-Jugendbuchpreis‹ für *Freaks*
- 2006 ›Jugendbuchpreis‹ der Jury der jungen Kritiker in Wien für *Vincent*
- 2006 Nominierung von *Torture the Artist (Vincent)* für die Longlist des ›Dylan Thomas Prize‹ in England

### Praise

*I Against Osbourne*

»I think it's great, the way Joey Goebel sees through pseudo-nonchalance and coolness without ever being schoolmasterly about it.« – Nina Anika Klotz / Petra, Hamburg

»A wonderfully told high school novel, full of humour and side swipes at the American school system, which sometimes behaves like a big kindergarten.« – Stefan Maelck / NDR Kultur, Hamburg

»Joey Goebel has written a wonderful book about the turmoil of still having to be a teenager, while already wanting to be an adult (and vice versa).« – Stefan Reis / Main-Echo, Aschaffenburg

»In ›I against Osbourne‹ Joey Goebel has managed to produce a critical consideration of school as part of modern partying society. And a sophisticated answer to the question of why a person might feel themselves to be an outsider.« – Roland Krüger / Deutschlandradio Kultur, Berlin

»A delectable work for all age groups.« – André Gross / Nordkurier, Neubrandenburg

Joey Goebel

»Joey Goebel writes with the passion and humour of a modern day Mark Twain.« – www.popmatters.com



Photo: © Regine Mostmann / Diogenes Verlag

Joey Goebel, born 1980 in Henderson, Kentucky, where he lives and teaches English. He is the author of the novels *The Anomalies*, *Torture the Artist* and *Commonwealth*. His most recent novel *I Against Osbourne* was published in 2013.

## Praise (cont'd)

»Against this type of storytelling, the contemporary stars of American realism—from Philip Roth to Jonathan Franzen ... seem like a bunch of schmucks.« – Evelyn Finger / Die Zeit, Hamburg

»Wickedly ingenious ... Goebel's ebulliently funny writing sparkles off the page.« – Caroline Leavitt / Boston Globe

»So as Fitzgerald tagged his generation's excesses and delusions in ›The Great Gatsby‹ and Bret Easton Ellis did the same in the 1980s with ›Less Than Zero‹, Joey Goebel grabs the Zeitgeist by the nape of the neck and gives it a good twirl...« – Pages Magazine, USA

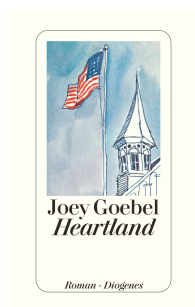
»Joey Goebel is a quirky, fresh, and relevant voice for our time.« – Library Journal, USA

»Joey Goebel is being acclaimed as a literary discovery of the calibre of a John Irving or T. C. Boyle.« – Stefan Maelck / Norddeutscher Rundfunk, Hamburg

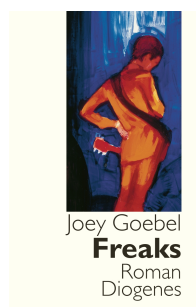
»There is hope as long as we have young writers like Joey Goebel.« – Die Welt, Berlin



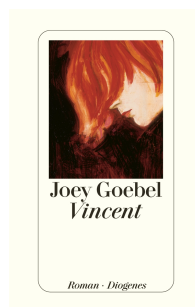
*I Know It's Going to Happen for You Someday*  
320 pages  
2019



*Commonwealth*  
720 pages  
2009



*The Anomalies*  
208 pages  
2006  
🏆 Award winner



*Torture the Artist*  
448 pages  
2005  
🏆 Award winner